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June 20, 2002

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL/FACSIMILE**

Mr. Arthur Baggett, Jr.  
Hearing Officer, Chairman of State Water  
Resources Control Board  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 "I" Street, 22nd Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SWRCB Hearings

Dear Chairman Baggett:

Because Mr. Osias is out of town, I respond on his behalf to Mr. Rossman's latest letter of today's date.

As stated in Mr. Osias's earlier letter, Imperial County and/or Mr. Rossman have received the master responses and the errata sheets. IID never promised any hearing participant that they would have the final printed EIR/EIS by now, as is implied. All parties have known that IID would be having a meeting on certification at the end of June, and IID committed to getting all parties a copy of the final version (if certified) by July 1, so that the parties could see what matters changed no later than a week prior to the continued hearings. IID remains committed to doing that. The request by Mr. Rossman that the briefing should be continued on this basis is thus in error.

Regarding devoting significant effort to briefing, which may be the real reason Mr. Rossman would like more time, we sympathize, but again disagree. This Petition has been pending before this Board for almost four years. The draft EIR/EIS has been out for many months. No party should have waited until now to start briefing the core matters.

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IID's main concern is with the SWRCB. If handling a large volume of legal briefs in late July will meaningfully slow the SWRCB's review process down, the delay request should be denied. Thank you for your consideration of these issues.

Very truly yours,

Mark J. Hattam

MJH  
cc: Attached service list.

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bcc: Mr. Elston Grubaugh  
John Penn Carter, Esq.  
William H. Swan, Esq.